Review of: Culture and Clinical Care

Cassandra Holder-Ballard

Reviewed by Cassandra Holder-Ballard, RDH, MPA, associate professor of dental hygiene at the University of Tennessee, Health Science Center, in Memphis, Tennessee.

Culture and Clinical Care

1st Edition
Lipson JG and Dibble SL
UCSF Nursing Press, 2006
San Francisco, California
487 pages, indexed, soft cover
ISBN 0-943671-22-1
$33.95

Culture and Clinical Care is a guidebook designed for use by clinicians who work with culturally diverse clients. This soft-backed text is not designed to be used as an instructional textbook, but rather as a starting point in understanding a variety of cultural/ethnic groups.
The book's introduction is entitled, "Providing Culturally Appropriate Health Care." This section provides a framework for understanding the significance culture plays in the provision of health care. The subtopics in this section are "Limitations of Information," "Sources of Diversity," "Variations in Communication," and "Communication and Interpreters."

This book is composed of 35 chapters. Each chapter addresses a specific cultural/ethnic group. The cultural groups were selected based on population size; according to the United States (U.S.) Census each group numbers at least 100,000. Chapters are arranged alphabetically, beginning with Afghans and ending with (former) Yugoslavians. Each chapter is authored by 1 to 3 individuals who are members of the cultural/ethnic group, or are uniquely connected to the group. Most of the authors are nurses with advanced degrees. Other authors have advance degrees in areas such as public health or social anthropology.

Chapters follow a common sequence. There are 12 major headers, and each contains 3 to 15 subtopics. The first header is "Culture/Ethnic Identity". There are three subtitles for this header. The first is a discussion of the preferred terms for identifying members of this group. Next, a census report of the population is provided, including where the largest numbers reside. Some other interesting headers are "Spiritual/Religious Orientation," "Food Practices," "Symptom Management," and "Death Rituals."

"Communication" appears to be the most involved section for every chapter. Discussions in this area include major languages and dialects, tone of voice, styles of speech, and the use of interpreters. Written communication is also addressed, regarding literacy assessment and consents. Last, nonverbal communication is addressed. Some of the subtitles for this topic are "Eye Contact," "Personal Space," "Meaning of Silence," "Gestures," and "Orientation of Time."

Other extensive sections are, "Birth Rituals," "Developmental and Sexual Issues," "Family Relationships," and "Illness Beliefs." The "Birth Rituals" section covers pregnancy to delivery as well as baby care. "Developmental and Sexual Issues" section provides insight on attitudes toward birth control, STDs, abortion, and sexual orientation. The "Family Relationships" section offers information about family structure, decision making, roles of family members, and expectations of and for children. Finally, the "Illness Beliefs" section discusses the concept of health and prevention and ends with common health problems.

The editors stress that there is considerable variation in every cultural group. They caution that chapters in this book should not be used as blueprints for patient characteristics. Their purpose is to alert clinicians to potential factors that they should consider in providing appropriate care.

Culture and Clinical Care is an excellent resource for many health care providers, especially those who deliver direct patient care. The text provides easy access to information pertaining to specific cultural/ethnic groups. However, the reader must remember that the information provided is not a substitute for individualized patient interaction.
Review of: Essentials of Dental Hygiene: Preclinical Skills

Patricia A Frese

Reviewed by Patricia A. Frese, RDH, MEd, associate professor of dental hygiene at the University of Cincinnati, Raymond Walters College, in Cincinnati, Ohio.

Essentials of Dental Hygiene: Preclinical Skills

1st Edition

Cooper MD, Wiechmann L

Pearson Prentice Hall, 2005

Upper Saddle River, New Jersey

321 pages, illustrated, indexed, soft cover with CD-ROM


$38.60

The authors' intent for this text is to have the first-year, first-semester dental hygiene student learn the basic skills necessary to provide initial dental hygiene care in the clinical setting. The authors recognize that additional skill sets are required for comprehensive care and are planning a follow-up textbook covering these additional skills and services. The text is written in an outline format that the first-time reader can easily read and scan when reviewing the material. The 10 chapters, written by the authors and expert contributors, are presented in the order of patient treatment. While this text is primarily written for the dental hygiene student, it is of value to the dental hygiene practitioner who wants a skills review, and for faculty calibration as well.
The focus and design of the text make the information and skills immediately applicable to patient treatment. The chapters begin with a glossary of key terms with definitions and a list of learning objectives. The core content of each chapter is presented in a step-by-step sequence with enough background information to contribute to critical thinking, thus avoiding performance of skills without understanding. There are "Preclinical Tip" boxes throughout, which provide interesting information that will strengthen the reader's knowledge. The boxes are cleverly subtitled to match the intent of each chapter. There are tables, charts, diagrams, photographs, and sample forms that are supported by and help to further explain the written text. The chapters end with skill sheets and multiple-choice questions that can by used by the student for practice and/or by the instructor for evaluation. A list of references completes each chapter.

The photographs in the text are in black and white. There are pages at the end of the text that have some of these photographs in color so the learner can begin to appreciate the importance of normal and abnormal coloration of the head and neck regions.

Additionally, there is a CD-ROM with the text. The reader is directed to this feature at the beginning of every chapter. The CD contains a photo gallery that has color versions of the black and white photographs presented in the text. This allows the reader to view the correct coloration in a more cost-effective manner than a full-color text. The CD also contains video clips of the skills. These techniques videos include infection control, extra- and intraoral examinations, charting, instrumentation for both right- and left-handed practitioners, blood pressure measurement, polishing, oral physiotherapy (OPT) aids, and fluorides. QuickTime is necessary to view these short video clips and can be downloaded from the CD. The student can use the CD as self-study or the instructor can present the information in class.

Overall, the text is applicable to a wide audience. The information is complete and current. The CD-ROM is a useful addition and makes good use of current technology to provide additional information while keeping costs reasonable. For the second edition of the text, the authors should consider providing the answers to the review questions as well as the page numbers where the material is presented. This will make the questions more useful to the beginning learner as well as for the student reviewing for board exams.
The fourth edition of *Oral Pathology for the Dental Hygienist* is an affirmation of the popularity of the text and the authors' desire to produce a valued resource for the dental hygiene learner and teacher of oral pathology. As stated in the preface, this text now includes 10 chapters which exemplify the authors' efforts to adequately cover, enhance, expand, and clearly relay information to students and practitioners. For example, in the previous edition, the chapter on immunology was longer, but is now separated into 2 chapters: Chapter 3, "Immunology" and Chapter 4, "Infectious Diseases." In addition, although nonneoplastic bone diseases information was included throughout the previous edition, Chapter 8 was added to this edition and is specifically dedicated to this topic.

This full-color text of clinical photographs and photomicrographs enhances the transference of didactic knowledge into clinical application. The depth and scope of the text information is presented in a clear, succinct manner that is
understandable, provides appropriate information to the dental hygiene student, and is a useful reference to the practitioner. An oral pathologist who used the text to teach dental hygiene courses reports that specific features make this text teacher- and student-friendly. These features include the detailed objectives and vocabulary at the start of each chapter, review questions at the end of each chapter with corresponding answers at the end of the book, a comprehensive and valued synopsis of the chapter information at the end of each chapter, and a text glossary. All were a definite asset to the learner and to the teacher of the course, who also comments that the CD-ROM was a prized resource. The students appreciated having the images for study on the computer and in the text.

The quality contrast and density of the radiographs clearly depict abnormalities and pathologies of which the clinician must be knowledgeable. Throughout the chapters, accurate references are made to figures that correspond to the text. For example, Langerhans cell disease is clearly depicted histologically, radiographically, and clinically. Illustrations enhance the clarity of the information and are included as appropriate throughout the chapter readings.

This colorful textbook with corresponding CD-ROM definitely meets its goal to be an excellent oral pathology text for dental hygiene students, practitioners, and teachers. It is practical, user-friendly, and comprehensive. Thank you to the authors and their contributors for their excellent efforts in making such a useful text for dental hygiene professionals.
Review of: Paediatric Cariology

Jackie Carpenter

Reviewed by Jackie Carpenter, CDA, RDH.

Paediatric Cariology
Deery C, Hosey MT, Waterhouse P
Quintessence, 2004
London, England
136 pages
$54.00

In neatly organized chapters, this volume of the Quintessential Dental Practice series clearly states the facts about, and the needs and ideas for improvements of, the oral health of children in the United Kingdom. Although much of the information differs from the United States, the topic of pediatric cariology is covered, from understanding the need to techniques used in preventing and managing caries in children. The photos are clear and the illustrations complement the text. Although there are some slight spelling or word differences, the meanings are understood by the context. This volume mentions state-of-the-art technology such as the Diagnodent lasers and fiber optics to detect caries. It briefly includes lasers, air abrasion, and ozone technology in management of caries. The references and suggestions for further reading
are relatively current, from the past 3 to 10 years. This volume has many topics and facts appropriate for dental hygienists to refresh their knowledge and gain understanding of oral health issues in children, although there are several chapters that share clinical details for dentists, making this volume inappropriate for patients.

Pediatric dentistry in the United States does have its differences in many aspects from the United Kingdom. The most significant difference is that many parts of the United Kingdom have the highest prevalence of dental caries, whereas in the United States, which has used preventable measures for years, especially fluoridated water, dental caries are almost completely preventable. Many dental practitioners in Western Europe treat pediatric toothaches by removing the tooth, which creates another issue to deal with when a space is left. Due to socioeconomic conditions in the United Kingdom, saving the tooth may not be an option, as this book explains.

The book uses the International Dental Federation (FDI) tooth numbering system, which is also called the International. This system is two-digit, by numbering the quadrants 1-4, and numbering the teeth 1-8. In the United States, the Universal Tooth Numbering System is used, which numbers the teeth from 1 to 32 for adults and A to T for children. Chapter 4 mentions a caries prevention toolkit for children and recommends Xylitol chewing gum, chlorhexidine, and fluoride varnish, along with diet modification and sealants. The United States is just now experiencing the use of Xylitol; it can be found in health food stores in the form of gum, mints, or packets, and in Trident chewing gum. Xylitol is a 5-carbon sugar alcohol that is not fermentable by oral bacteria and inhibits *Streptococcus mutans*. In the United States, chlorhexidine is more regularly prescribed for adults than children as an adjunct to tissue management in patients with periodontal disease. In the United States, the Food and Drug Administration has approved fluoride varnish as a "cavity liner" and a desensitizing agent. Its use as a dental caries preventive agent is considered "off label." Fluoride varnish has a long history of use throughout Europe, Canada, and the Scandinavian countries since the 1980s.

Chapters 5 through 8 contain techniques used by dentists in both the United Kingdom and the United States. There are some techniques that American dentists may find interesting in dealing with the child patient. Chapter 5 mentions the Atraumatic Restorative Treatment (ART) technique, which treats decay as early as possible by using only hand instruments for excavating and a finger to condense glass-ionomer cement for fillings. In the United States, the ART technique used widely is air abrasion microdentistry, which treats decay as early as possible with a gentle spray of air and powder mix that removes decay with no needle or drill, and fills it with a tooth-colored resin. Chapter 7 promotes pulp therapy as an alternative to extracting decayed teeth in the primary dentition. The introduction mentions the recent controversy and changes on the use of formaldehyde in humans for pulp therapy by the International Agency for Research on Cancer, which confirms the carcinogenic effects of formaldehyde in humans and promotes aldehyde-free techniques in the United Kingdom. They are currently using ferric-sulfate instead of formocresol. Chapter 8 describes a technique called "discing" that the United Kingdom also uses. This technique is used to reduce recurrent caries in primary teeth by removing interproximal caries with abrasive discs. This reshapes the teeth to produce easier access for cleansing, although the results are not aesthetically pleasing, as the chapter describes.

As a dental hygienist, I found this volume in the Quintessential Series informative and interesting. It expanded my view of children's oral health concerns and access to care in countries other than my own and reminded me of my role as an oral health educator, which was stressed by my instructors in dental hygiene school. I would recommend this volume to dentists, dental hygienists, and dental assistants.
"You can't judge a book by its cover" comes to mind when reading over *Spanish for Dental Professionals - A Step by Step Handbook*. It depends upon what your level of understanding of Spanish is and what your expectations are when reading this book for personal and/or professional reasons. If you are an absolute beginner and have very little understanding of the Spanish language, then perhaps this book is for you. If you are, however, a seasoned resident of a bilingual community, a 100-page book will not compensate for years of missed language skills.

What the writer of this book attempts to do is to teach conversational Spanish in the context of one paperback book and CD-ROM, something that I haven't been able to learn completely through years of practice, coursework, and living fully immersed in a predominantly Spanish speaking culture.
The book starts out very logically, explaining that it should be used by small groups of learners who want to work together to improve their dental health-related spoken Spanish skills. Further explained is that there should be a "facilitator," not a teacher, who has the best Spanish language skills of the group. It turns out by reading on, that the book is not really "Spanish for Dental Professionals", but learning to speak Spanish FOR dental professionals who want to learn conversational Spanish.

As described in the book, the authors urge the group of learners to meet once a week at lunch. Also listed in the suggestions for the learner are some excellent adjunctive activities, such as visiting a grocery store, restaurant, or church service where Spanish is spoken. Also recommended by the writers is for the learner to "build a personal library of Spanish resources." This suggestion confirms what eventually became evident to me, this book cannot stand on its own as a means of learning dental Spanish or conversational Spanish.

While the book is technically and factually correct, it may not cover some of the important sayings that are used by various groups of Spanish speaking individuals in the different parts of the United States.

The authors clearly and adequately cover the topics included in the book. The accompanying CD also adds much needed information. However, it is not a reference book, as indicated by the description on the cover. One major flaw is that there is no comprehensive chart of dental terms for dental hygienists. Also, the cover states that the book/CD are meant to be part of a one hour per week, six week long training course. Without additional resources, it is unrealistic to expect to enhance conversational Spanish skills in that period of time.

Herein lies the problem. For instance, on page 17, there is a chart listing "New Expressions" or Expresiones nuevas: Aprendiendo sobre la familia (Learning about the Family). The chart contains very useful information about how to ask the patient their name, their mother's name, etc. This is all fine and well if the patient answers you in one word sentences and doesn't elaborate. However, if the patient says back to you, "Me llamo Jose; mis amigos llame me Gordo," you may just be in trouble. You might find yourself smiling and shaking your head and wondering what the heck they just said. 'Ok, I got the part about "My name is Jose, but what else did he say?"

Again, on page 21, there is a wonderful chart which tells the dental professional basic sayings that you might want to say to the patient on the first visit. "Abra la boca, por favor" is a good one, for example, if you just need the patient to open their mouth. "Saque la lengua" is great if you are doing a cancer screening and need them to stick out their tongue. Unfortunately, if they talk back in their native language, you will have a difficult time understanding what they are saying.

The level of writing is appropriate for all levels of readers, especially for college-educated dental hygienists. The photos and illustrations complement the text, especially the charts. The flash cards at the end of the book are a "must" for anyone who takes on the basics of Spanish.

The book includes very important information, such as the months and seasons, as well as the numbers in Spanish. Included in the book, however, is a "Immigrant Experience Game" which seems somewhat out of place. During the game, the players can get their work visa revoked, get deported, arrive via JFK or earn their GED - none of which has to do with Spanish for the dental professional.

One of the other game pieces says, "You must speak fluent English," and that one makes me almost laugh out loud. Here in South Florida, it is we Americans that must speak fluent Spanish. Spanish has become part of our culture. In order to work here, you MUST speak Spanish fluently. It is not always the other way around. It is not unusual in Miami and Miami Dade County, especially, to walk into a business and not have ANYBODY speak English. This makes the struggle for us to learn perfect Spanish even more immediate and important.

What parts stand out as far as the book is concerned? The CD-ROM is an excellent adjunct to the book and the flash cards in the back of the book are good for memory exercises.

The book does succeed in its goal to "be used in emergency situations or as a source of phrases to make routine visits more comfortable for patients." As far as meeting its stated goal, "to help dentists, dental hygienists, and other dental personnel communicate with Spanish-speaking patients," that may be a stretch for this book alone.